

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of this Application, withdrawal of the rejections, and formal notification of the allowability of all claims as now presented are earnestly solicited in light of the above claim amendments and remarks that follow.

Claim 1 has been canceled, and claim 2 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1. Claims 8, 10-12, and 15 have been amended to depend from claim 2. Applicant respectfully requests entry of these amendments and submits the amendments place the application in condition for allowance or, at the very least, place the claims in better form for appeal. Claims 2-20 are pending.

Initially, Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 16-20 are allowed and that claims 2-7 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Regarding claims 2-7, Applicant further appreciates the Examiner's participation in a brief telephone conference with Applicant's representative on October 30, 2007, wherein the Examiner clarified that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, had been overcome in Applicant's previous response and that the statement regarding 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, was inadvertently included in the present office action.

Further regarding claims 2-7, Applicant respectfully points out that claim 2 has been amended to include all of the subject matter from claim 1. Claims 3-7 sequentially depend from claim 2. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits claims 2-7 are now in allowable form having met the Examiner's stated requirements.

Claims 1 and 8-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,629,728 to Losio *et al.* Claims 1 and 8-15 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,739,656 to Yu. Although Applicant does not necessarily agree with the present rejections, to expedite prosecution, claim 1 has been canceled. Further, claims 8-15 have been appropriately amended to depend from claim 2, which is now in allowable form.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits claims 8-15 are also now in allowable condition.

Applicant respectfully submits that all claims, as now submitted, are in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. If any minor formalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is directed to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to facilitate prosecution of this case.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR §1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

/Ryan W. Cagle/

Ryan W. Cagle
Registration No. 47,468

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Raleigh Office (919) 862-2200
Fax Raleigh Office (919) 862-2260

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